

applied prior art were discussed. By this paper, claims 1-4, 6, 7, 14-16, 35-38, and 40-42 have been amended. Claims 5 and 39 have been cancelled without prejudice. Accordingly, claims 1-4, 6, 7, 14-16, 35-38, and 40-42 are pending. Applicants respectfully request favorable consideration of the pending claims in view of the amendments herein, the matters discussed at the interview, and the remarks below.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-2, 4-7, 14, 15, and 41 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,852,151 to Dittakavi et al. As discussed at the interview, independent claims 1, 7, and 14 have been amended to recite subject matter to overcome the rejection under Dittakavi. For at least this reason, and in view of the agreement reached at the interview, the prior art of record does not disclose or suggest the subject matter of claims 1, 7, and 14 as amended. Accordingly, the rejection of the independent claims has been overcome. All other pending claims depend directly or indirectly on one of claims 1, 7, and 14, and are therefore also patentable over the cited art.

In view of the foregoing, the rejection of the pending claims has been overcome, and the claims are now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,

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